

REMARKS

Claims 1-13, 22, 23 and 28-40 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 4 and 22 are amended herein. Claims 14-21 and 24-27 have been canceled herein. Claim 40 has been added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 22, 23, 28, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Chen (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0170880; hereinafter referred to as "Chen").

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation "a stamp including elevated structures on a main surface, the elevated structures serving as information/structures to be transferred to the patterning layer on the wafer, wherein dimensions of the main surface of the stamp approximately correspond to dimensions of the main surface of the wafer, wherein the stamp is provided with the elevated structures essentially over the entire main surface, and wherein the stamp and the wafer each include a plurality of mutually assigned pairs of alignment marks; a positioning system comprising a plurality of infrared light sources and a plurality of infrared cameras, wherein each mutually assigned pair of alignment marks is assigned an infrared light source and a corresponding infrared camera, wherein the stamp is positioned on the wafer by means of the positioning system and is pressed into the patterning layer." Chen does not teach or suggest an infrared positioning system using a plurality of infrared light sources and a plurality of infrared cameras. It is respectfully submitted that the claim as amended is allowable.

Claims 2-13 depend from claim 1 and add further limitations. It is respectfully submitted that these dependent claims are allowable by reason of depending from an allowable claim and adding further limitations.

Claims 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Sreenivasan, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,916,584; hereinafter referred to as "Sreenivasan").

Independent claim 22 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 24-25 which have been canceled herein, the limitation being "wherein aligning the stamp comprises positioning the stamp on the semiconductor wafer by means of an infrared positioning system, and wherein the infrared position system includes a plurality of infrared light sources and a plurality of infrared cameras, wherein each alignment mark on the stamp is aligned with a corresponding alignment mark on the semiconductor wafer using one of the infrared light sources and one of the infrared cameras" The claim has also been amended to include the step of "aligning the wafer in a radial direction." Sreenivasan and Chen do not teach or suggest the use of a plurality of infrared light sources for proper positioning or alignment of the features, nor do they teach or suggest aligning the wafer in a radial direction prior to aligning the stamp. It is respectfully submitted that the claim as amended is allowable.

Claims 23 and 28-39 depend from claim 22 and add further limitations. It is respectfully submitted that these dependent claims are allowable by reason of depending from an allowable claim and adding further limitations.

Dependent claim 40 has been added to more comprehensively claim the invention as originally filed. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that this dependent claim is allowable by reason of depending from an allowable claim and adding additional limitations.

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Ira S. Matsil, Applicants' attorney, at 972-732-1001 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. No fee is believed due in

connection with this filing. However, should one be deemed due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1065.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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